

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 13-25; and

Add new claims 26 and 27, as follows:

Claims 1-12 (cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) ~~An applicator device for a printing or varnishing unit of a processing machine, the processing machine including a printing cylinder having a cylinder channel, the applicator device comprising:~~

~~an applicator roller associated with printing cylinder, the applicator roller comprising~~
A printing machine comprising:

a printing cylinder having a cylinder channel, an applicator device for applying a liquid medium to the printing cylinder, said applicator device including an applicator roller in rolling contact with said printing cylinder, said applicator roller including a roller core, a compressible layer of cellular foam material arranged in concentric relation to the roller core and firmly adhered to the roller core, and an elastic cover layer for carrying a medium to be processed, the elastic cover layer being firmly adhered on the compressible layer, and

said compressible layer being deformable as an incident to said applicator roller contacting said printing cylinder channel during operation of said printing machine for dampening against jolts resulting from rolling movement of the applicator roller surface over the printing cylinder channel.

14. (Currently Amended) The applicator device- printing machine according to claim 13, wherein the applicator roller is a moisture-applicator in contact with the printing cylinder operable for applying a moistening agent to said printing cylinder.

15. (Currently Amended) The applicator device- printing machine according to claim 13, wherein the applicator roller is an ink-applicator roller in contact with the printing cylinder operable for applying a printing ink to said printing cylinder.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 15, wherein the applicator roller is one of a plurality of applicator rollers associated with the printing cylinder, and wherein a first applicator roller and a second applicator roller arranged in a rotational direction of the printing cylinder are in contact with a friction roller.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein the applicator roller is a varnish-applicator roller in contact with the printing cylinder operable for applying a varnish to said printing cylinder.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein the compressible layer of the applicator roller is an open-pore foam material.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein the compressible layer of the applicator roller is a closed-pore foam material.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein the compressible layer of the applicator roller comprises a combination of open-pore and closed-pore foam materials.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein the compressible layer of the foamed material includes gas inclusions.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein ~~the compressible layer is concentrically arranged on a casing and the cover layer is~~ arranged on the compressible layer such that the compressible layer and cover layer can be pulled on the roller core as a sleeve.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein the applicator roller further includes a barrier layer arranged between the roller core and the compressible layer.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 22, wherein the applicator roller further includes a barrier layer arranged between the compressible layer and the casing.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~applicator device- printing machine~~ according to claim 13, wherein the compressible layer is firmly adhered on the roller core by a first vulcanization and the cover layer is firmly adhered to the compressible layer by a second vulcanization.

26. (New) An offset printing machine comprising:

a printing cylinder for receiving and supporting a printing form, said printing cylinder having a cylinder channel, an applicator device for applying a liquid medium to the printing form on said printing cylinder, a blanket cylinder in rolling contacting relation with the printing cylinder for receiving liquid medium from the printing cylinder for application to moving sheet material, said applicator device including an applicator roller in rolling contact with said printing cylinder, said applicator roller including a roller core, a compressible layer of cellular foam material arranged in concentric relation to the roller core and firmly adhered to the roller core, and an elastic cover layer for carrying a medium to be processed, the elastic cover layer being firmly adhered on the compressible layer, and said compressible layer being deformable as an incident to said applicator roller contacting said printing cylinder channel during operation of said printing machine for dampening against jolts resulting from rolling movement of the applicator roller surface over the printing cylinder channel.

27. (New) A flexographic printing machine comprising:

a printing cylinder for receiving and supporting a flexographic printing plate, said printing cylinder having a cylinder channel, an applicator device for applying a liquid medium to the printing plate on said printing cylinder, a pressure cylinder in rolling contacting relation with said printing cylinder for defining a printing nip through which sheet material to be printed is directed, said applicator device including an applicator roller in rolling contact with said printing cylinder, said applicator roller including a roller core, a compressible layer of cellular foam

material arranged in concentric relation to the roller core and firmly adhered to the roller core, and an elastic cover layer for carrying a medium to be processed, the elastic cover layer being firmly adhered on the compressible layer, and said compressible layer being deformable as an incident to said applicator roller contacting said printing cylinder channel during operation of said printing machine for dampening against jolts resulting from rolling movement of the applicator roller surface over the printing cylinder channel.